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Shushma Datt started Raise Your Hand Against Racism last year, an initiative in which people dip their hand in paint and write an inspirational note. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO



MESSAGE OF HOPE

Radio host calls for Vancouverites to fight discrimination this month

metroNEWS

Gender equity pitched for city committees

MUNICIPAL MATTERS

Councillors will consider mandating a 50% quota



Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

Vancouver is poised to embrace the federal government's com-

mitment to gender equality by mandating that women make up at least half of city advisory committees.

Coun. Andrea Reimer will table a motion Tuesday calling for a formal requirement for gender parity in appointments to city advisory committees. She called her motion "Because it's 2016" in a nod to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's famous retort that Canada should have a gender-equal cabinet "because it's 2015."

"We continue to see women

underrepresented in public life and in 2016 there's no reason that should be acceptable," Mayor Gregor Robertson said Sunday in a statement announcing his support for Reimer's motion. Robertson's support indicates the motion will pass on the Vision Vancouver majority council.

In practice, most city advisory committees have a 50-50 gender split, Reimer said. But she realized the need for a formal policy a couple months ago when 100 per cent of the

people recommended by external agencies for the Urban Design Panel were men. She received push back when she asked for new nominations that included women.

"I think some feel like supporting people and asserting the rights to be equal somehow takes away someone else's rights. That's just not the case," she said.

"Fair enough, those professions are very dominated by men, but if we don't take action to support the women,

"We continue to see women underrepresented in public life."

Coun. Andrea Reimer

they're not going to have the power and visibility to make other women feel more welcome."

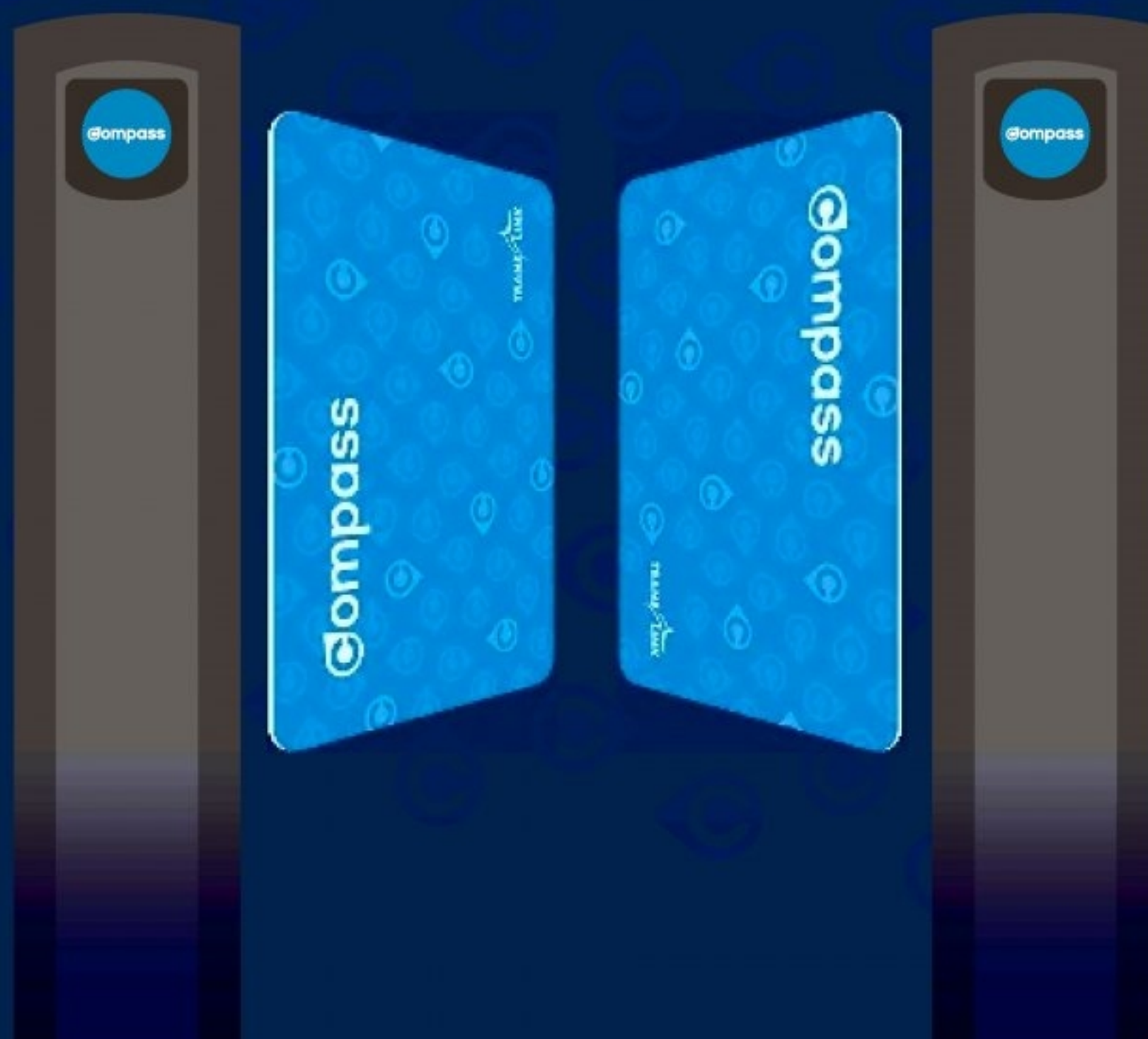
Reimer's motion also calls for a review of the city's so-

cial grants to ensure services for women and girls receive an equitable share of funding, particularly in the Downtown Eastside, and an update to the city's decade-old Gender Equality Strategy.

The federal government's keen interest in gender equality makes now the time to act, Reimer said.

"The more equitable and equal we are, we're all stronger," Reimer said Sunday. "If we don't do it today, it will have to be 'because it's 2017.'"

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5

THINGS AT VANCOUVER CITY HALL THIS WEEK

It's time to dust off the birthday candles, as Vancouver councillors consider a plan for a \$7.75-million, 11-day party for Canada's 150th birthday this summer. Here's what else is going on. **EMILY JACKSON** METRO



1 West-end social housing

The city will make the first dent in its promise to build 500 new social housing units in the West End. Council will be asked to approve the acquisition of 27 units of social housing that are part of the 19-storey mixed-use Intracorp development at 1171 Jervis St. The units will be transferred to the city for a nominal price, according to staff. Rents will range from shelter rates of \$375 per month to the CMHC average market rent for the area. **JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE**



2 Lilian To

The legacy of Lilian To, one of Vancouver's most prominent advocates for immigrants as the former head of S.U.C.C.E.S.S., will be celebrated by affixing her name to signs at the entrances to Shanghai Alley. The city also recommends funding up to \$30,000 to mount a bilingual commemorative plaque in To's honour on S.U.C.C.E.S.S.'s head office outer wall. The city will also consider naming a street or civic asset after To. **CONTRIBUTED**

Urban farming

3 The city wants to implement a uniform set of rules to govern the urban farms that have cropped up around the city. While there are currently at least 18 urban farming businesses operating within city limits, there are no specific rules for them. Staff argue this makes it confusing for farmers and the city alike. The city wants to add urban farming to its zoning bylaws in order to legitimize the practice. **ERIC DREGER/THE CANADIAN PRESS**



4 Canada's 150th birthday party

Vancouver has big plans for Canada's 150th birthday, which it intends to use as an opportunity for reconciliation and to celebrate Indigenous cultures. City staff will ask council to approve a \$7.75-million budget for an 11-day party in summer 2017 at Larwill Park in downtown Vancouver, the parking lot where the city held the FIFA Women's World Cup fan zone and the 2010 Winter Olympics live site. The event will be planned in partnership with local First Nations and will celebrate contemporary Aboriginal art. Staff plan to use \$1.9 million from city coffers and hope to get the remainder from federal grants and private sponsorship. **JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE**



5 Vacant housing

Vancouverites are poised to find out how many of the city's houses and condos sit empty instead of being used as housing. Staff will present findings on how many homes are vacant based on B.C. Hydro data on utility usage. Empty homes that act merely as real estate investments have become a sore spot with locals who have a hard time finding affordable places to live. **ERIC DREGER/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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DTES STREET MARKET

Co-ordinator quit over volunteer pay



Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

The former co-ordinator of the DTES Street Market says he resigned because the city's funding was insufficient to pay workers.

Roland Clarke and Jacek Lorek left the DTES Street Market Society in late January amid a funding dispute with the City of Vancouver, which led to the city awarding the Portland Hotel Society a temporary service contract to keep the popular markets running until permanent operators are found.

Vancouver's managing director of social policy and projects, Mary Clare Zak, told Metro last week the city is committed to keeping the markets open because they provide opportunity for low-income residents to earn extra money and gain work experience by selling their wares.

Current DTES Street Market Society board member Sarah Blyth said Clarke and Lorek's relationship with the city became unmanageable.

On Sunday, Clarke told Metro he resigned because he felt the markets' volunteers were being exploited.

He said running three market sites seven days a week on the city's level of funding meant the society was unable to pay volunteers, some working the equivalent of a full-time job, anywhere near minimum wage.

Clarke himself put in 40 hours a week to co-ordinate the markets and was compensated the equivalent of \$5 an hour, he claims.

"Everybody working for the

market currently is working for less than minimum wage," said Clarke. "Our funding dispute was about more than operating funds. People work at the market every single day, seven days a week, and they get paid \$5 an hour. We weren't going to tolerate this."

Clarke said the DTES Street Market started as a small initiative but, with the support of the city, evolved into something much bigger and more expensive to operate.

In response, Zak said the city isn't responsible for how the society chooses to use its money.

"It was the Street Market Society that decided they wanted to use a peer-based model," said Zak. "The city doesn't decide how people are paid or not paid,



People work at the market every single day, seven days a week, and they get paid \$5 an hour. We weren't going to tolerate this.

Roland Clarke

that's up to the organization that is running the program."

Zak said the city made it clear there would be no additional funding on the table for the markets.

With \$200,000 in funding this year, \$400,000

total since 2011, only Vancouver's school breakfast program for vulnerable students receives more funding from the city when it comes to social programs.

It can seek additional funding sources, Zak said.

The street markets (at 62 E. Hastings, 501 Powell and Pigeon Park) are considered a benefit to the community by the city, police and local business improvement associations.

Last month, the city put out a request for expressions of interest and is seeking two organizations to run markets.

The deadline for submissions is March 24.



Victoria police watch over residents at the homeless camp, also known as InTent City, during a block party on Feb. 25.

CHAD HIPOLITO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tent city stragglers resist relocation

VICTORIA

Homeless camp faces legal showdown

Chris Parent says he was offered shelter space that includes a bed, bathroom and heat, but he's staying put in his tent on the grounds of Victoria's courthouse.

Housing Minister Rich Coleman says the B.C. government has homes for every courthouse camper but some are refusing to leave, forcing him to go to court in an attempt to take down the camp. Coleman said he's already started looking for landscapers

to clean up the grounds.

Parent is one of the more than two dozen people named in the government court application to evict the remaining homeless campers from the tent city occupying the lawn of Victoria's courthouse. A court date is set for Thursday.

"We are making a political statement," said Parent, who pitched an eight-person yurt at the downtown courthouse last November and adorned it with aboriginal art and Tibetan flags.

"Some of the people here have slipped through the cracks and we're looking for a place where we could feel at home," he said in a recent interview at the camp. "People don't want



Some of the people here have slipped through the cracks and we're looking for a place where we could feel at home.

Chris Parent

to leave here."

The camp has grown from a few tents last spring to more than 100 people as many of the homeless moved from alleyways and parks to the highly visible, manicured grounds of the down-

town courthouse.

Coleman said the government and Victoria social agencies have provided housing for every camper, turning a Boys and Girls Club, seniors residence and youth jail into homeless shelters. He said the government is working to provide homes for vulnerable people in the camp.

"I think there's some people down there that have really been asking for a confrontation from me for about two or three months," said Coleman. "Once we take care of the vulnerable people, we'll have to deal with the people who are there for the wrong reasons."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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ALAN KURDI DEATH

Smuggler sentences don't comfort aunt

The aunt of Alan Kurdi says she takes little comfort from the prison sentences two Syrian smugglers will serve in Turkey over the deaths of five people, including her nephew, who was photographed lying lifeless on a beach.

Tima Kurdi said Friday the problem plaguing Syrian migrants is far greater than two people and that political action at the global level is the only thing that will stop a war in Syria that has displaced millions.

"It's not about how many years they give them, even if they give them 35 years, this is not going to stop the smugglers," she said, speaking in Port Coquitlam, B.C. "To me the only way to stop them is political action. That's the only way we'll stop this operation."

A court in the Aegean resort of Bodrum convicted two men of human trafficking but ac-

"The only way to stop them is political action."

Tima Kurdi

quitted them of the charge of causing the drowning deaths through deliberate negligence.

The image of two-year-old Alan's body, face down on a Turkish beach, galvanized international attention to the Syrian refugee crisis and graphically illustrated the magnitude of the migrants' suffering.

Alan's brother, Galip, and mother, Rihan, were also among the five victims who drowned when their boat went down in the ill-fated journey from Bodrum to the Greek island of Kos last year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Carmen Shakti, a cast member in the upcoming production of The Hooker Monologues. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A frank exploration of sex workers' lives

THE HOOKER MONOLOGUES

Theatre production based on found journal

Maggie de Vries spent a good chunk of the 1990s trekking out to a small, grey house in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside trying to rescue her sister from a life of prostitution.

But after Sarah vanished and her DNA turned up on serial killer Robert Pickton's farm, de Vries read her sibling's journals and discovered her mission had only stirred up shame.

"I didn't know what she was going through," said de Vries.

"I didn't know she was scared. I didn't know she wanted out."

De Vries reveals her painful journey of reckoning over the past 18 years in a raw new theatre production called The Hooker Monologues, which opens Wednesday in Vancouver. The title plays off the acclaimed Vagina Monologues by feminist Eve Ensler.

De Vries' original work answers Sarah's decades-old journal entries with present-day personal responses as part of 21 performances.

The 10-member cast is composed of sex workers and their allies. The production was funded by grants and donations, and is directed by Vancouver's Mindy Parfitt.

Audiences at the show will

hear authentic stories that peel back the curtain on the hidden world of sex work, which covers a range of jobs, clients and experiences.

"They get to enter into Sarah's private thoughts that she wrote for herself. They get to see her hopes and dreams and longings. That's something they might not imagine," said de Vries, who regrets not trying to accept and understand her sister.

"If my attitude had been different, I could have simply been present.... It's too late to connect."

While de Vries' main performance is sad and gripping, she will also present an episode involving a sex worker on the job in Alaska on 9/11.

Monologues by other cast members include escorts and exotic dancers, a dominatrix, and a history lesson on the "Shame the Johns" campaign in the 1980s.

The show endeavours to dispel stigma and challenge myths about the sex work industry, according to its playbill. It was the brainchild of researcher Raven Bowen, a former executive director of the PACE Society, a sex worker support organization.

Cast members spent more than a year crafting a production infused with empowered messages, from denouncing the casual insult of "whore" to showing sex work can be a satisfying career choice.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Teen charged with murder

The RCMP's Integrated Homicide Investigation Team announced Sunday that first-degree murder charges have been approved against a 19-year-old in connection with a Chilliwack death on Feb. 24.

Police responded to home in the 42000 block of Yarrow Central Road that morning and found a 51-year-old woman dead as a result of suspicious circumstances.

Clayton Jacob Warkentin, 19, was arrested Friday in connection to the death.

Police say he and the victim are known to each other and allege the homicide appears to be domestic.

Warkentin is in custody

and is scheduled to appear in court Monday.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Shots fired in Surrey

Surrey RCMP are investigating a shooting involving two moving vehicles on Saturday evening.

Witnesses reported the occupants of one car shooting at another while driving down 62nd Avenue near 142nd Street but both vehicles had fled the scene by the time police arrived.

Shell casings were found in the area confirming a shooting had taken place and police later found an abandoned white Ford pickup truck with bullet holes in the area. Police believe the shooting was targeted.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO



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Hey racism, talk to the hand

EVENT

Vancouverites encouraged to post selfies to social media



#HANDS AGAINST RACISM

Tereza Verenca
Metro | Vancouver

A popular voice heard on the Lower Mainland's AM airwaves wants people to once again raise their hands — both figuratively and literally — against racism this month.

Shushma Datt, founder and morning host on AM 1200 Spice Radio, immigrated to Canada in the early '70s. At that point, her resumé included many years at the BBC as a studio manager, a position she believed she would easily attain in Vancouver's mainstream media. But that wasn't the case, she recalled.

"I think everyone who comes to this country as an immigrant goes through a little bit of upheaval.... I went to many stations and was not accepted," Datt told Metro, adding she eventually had to look for a job in broadcasting and ultimately landed a gig in ethnic media.

Since then, despite her initial career struggles she attributes to race, Datt has launched a subcarrier radio station and has put Spice Radio on the map. As far as she knows, she's the first woman and first Indo-Canadian



Shushma Datt started Raise Your Hands Against Racism last year, a Lower Mainland initiative where people dip their hand in water-based paint and write a message of hope. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

to be granted a CRTC licence.

Last year, the radio personality and her co-workers introduced the Raise Your Hands Against Racism (RYHAR) movement to Vancouver, with Surrey, Burnaby and White Rock following suit. The awareness campaign asks people to dip

their hands in coloured paint, place them on a blank sheet of paper and write an inspirational message.

RYHAR, which lands on March 19 this year, is inspired by and is meant to coincide with India's Holi Festival. (Holi participants celebrate by throw-

ing coloured powder and water at each other.)

"The idea of Holi is we're all the same. You can't see the real colour of the person because they all look the same," said Datt, who was born in Kenya and has lived on four continents.

Metro Vancouverites are also being encouraged to take a selfie with their hand raised and post it to social media using the hashtag #HandsAgainstRacism.

2015's inaugural event was a huge success, Datt said.

"It was so popular we had calls coming in as far as Eng-



We want to see it go global.

Shushma Datt

land and Germany, even India and Pakistan."

This time around, there will be speeches and some dance groups performing prior to Spice Radio kicking off the event at the Roundhouse Community Arts and Recreation Centre on the 19th.

"We want to see it go global," Datt noted. "We all discriminate against one another for totally different reasons. It could be race, it could be colour, it could be ethnicity."

In order to tackle racism though, one needs to tackle discrimination first, she said.

"When we look at homeless people, it becomes like an everyday norm. 'Oh yeah, we've got homeless people.' Why aren't we doing anything about that?"

While the media industry looks a lot different than it did more than four decades ago, Datt said new immigrants still face many obstacles.

"In my field, now you see lots of South Asian women on television doing really great — and fantastic, they are amazing broadcasters and I'm so proud of them," she said.

"But I think racism and discrimination has shifted to other areas, and new immigrants always find it difficult no matter where they go. I'm not talking just about Canada, I'm talking all over the world."

IRISH TRADITION

Leaping into matrimony: Woman's proposal gets plenty of love online



Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

A romantic Williams Lake woman who took a huge leap when she surprised her boyfriend with an elaborate scavenger hunt that ended with a marriage proposal last Monday is warming hearts online.

Daniel Cupples, 25, told Metro that his girlfriend Kieran Gregg, 22, had long joked that she would pop the question on Feb. 29, taking part in the age-old Irish tradition that a woman can propose to a man on Leap Day.

"I kind of just laughed it off," he told Metro, adding: "But I guess it turns out she

was pretty serious about it."

Cupples, who shared the proposal story on social-media website Reddit, said the surprise began when his girlfriend's stepfather showed up on his doorstep with a bouquet

that eventually led him to a forest near their high school.

It wasn't until Cupples saw his girlfriend there, surrounded by candles with a guitarist and a photographer nearby, that he realized this was more than

wrote him about what their relationship meant to her before getting down on one knee and popping the question.

"There were a lot of heartfelt words said," he recalled of the emotional moment.

After posting the proposal story online, Cupples said, he had no idea it would be such a hit. The Reddit post has been upvoted more than 3,300 times in four days.

"I really didn't expect it to get the traction that it has," he said. "But it's a lot of good attention, so I'm not going to dispel it."

While part of him wishes he had been the one to get down on one knee, Cupples said he is glad his fiancée took the plunge.



I just thought she was doing something fun and nice.... It really didn't dawn on me until the end.

Daniel Cupples on his now-fiancée's elaborate plan

of flowers and the first of a series of clues.

The clues took Cupples on a tour of their favourite places, from Tim Hortons to the grocery store and their favourite pizza joint. Along the way, Cupples picked up more hints

just a typical scavenger hunt.

"I just thought she was doing something fun and nice," he said. "It really didn't dawn on me until the end."

Once he reached the final destination, Cupples said his girlfriend read from a letter she



Kieran Gregg, 22, proposed to boyfriend Daniel Cupples, 25, on Feb. 29 this year. COURTESY LAUREN CARRUTHERS PHOTOGRAPHER

Crying girl ignored, teen fired



This screenshot shows a young girl reportedly stuck on a climbing wall at Funtopia in Surrey, while the climbing instructor appears to text on her phone and ignore her. FACEBOOK

FUNTOPIA

Firm 'shocked' by video of climbing wall aide on phone



Thandi Fletcher
Metro Vancouver

A Surrey indoor playground company has fired an employee for ignoring a crying child stuck on a climbing wall.

The mother captured the incident, which happened at Funtopia in Surrey, on video and posted it to Facebook.

In the video, which was no longer available Friday, a young girl can be seen crying for help as she clings to the wall during a climbing lesson.

Meanwhile, the employee sits a few metres away, appearing to ignore the child for nearly a minute while she looks at her phone.

"This EFFIN teacher!" the mother, identified as Happy Lani, wrote on Facebook. "My

daughter is crying up there and she is ON HER PHONE TEXTING!"

A request for comment from Lani was not immediately returned Friday.

On Facebook, Lani wrote that she noticed the employee was texting on her phone before the lesson started.

"It broke my heart not to run and help my daughter right away," she wrote. "But I needed to capture this as evidence. Trust me I stopped the whole lesson!"

After filming the incident, Lani said she showed the video to a supervisor, who she said was also "shocked."

In a post on Facebook, Funtopia wrote that the parent showed the video, which the company described as "really disturbing" and "definitely not normal."

"This particular employee has broke at least three internal rules, starting with no phones outside of the employees room," the company wrote. "I can assure you that she will not work a single minute more in our location."

Yasen Nikolov, a manager



She will not work a single minute more in our location.

Funtopia Facebook post

at Funtopia Surrey, said the incident never should have happened.

He said the 19-year-old employee has been fired for breaking several of the facility's policies.

The young woman worked at the gym for about six months and had received thorough training, including lessons from one of Canada's best indoor rock-climbers, he said.

Some people on social media have questioned the actions of the mother for not immediately coming to the aid of her daughter.

But in another Facebook post on Thursday, Lani said she "doesn't mind."

"All I know is that without my video she would still be employed working with young children," she wrote.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

CRIME

RCMP traffic stop in southeastern B.C. nets \$500,000 in drugs

RCMP have seized an estimated \$500,000 in marijuana and potent hash oil, after a traffic stop Wednesday in southeastern British Columbia.

Mounties were conducting road safety checks in Field, B.C., when an officer pulled over the driver of a Mitsubishi Outlander.

The officer seized more than four kilograms of marijuana and 10 litres of a high-quality strain of hash oil known as Phoenix Tears.

Two Alberta men, aged 24 and 47, are scheduled to appear in May at provincial court in Golden, B.C.

Sgt. Rob Haney said it's rewarding to know that officers were able to keep these dangerous drugs from reaching the streets.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has promised to legalize and regulate marijuana but has signalled that in the meantime, police must continue to uphold the law.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RED TAPE REDUCTION

Regulations eased on room-service booze

Guests staying at B.C. hotels can now have a beer with their burger when they order late-night room service, thanks to a new change to B.C.'s liquor laws that came into effect Friday.

Businesses, hotels, resorts and other overnight accommodation spots in the province can now deliver liquor to guests by room service 24 hours a day, as long as food is also available, the Ministry of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction announced in a news release Friday.

Before the change, hotels could deliver liquor by room service only when the bar was also open.

"These changes mean that anyone visiting British Columbia, on a weekend getaway or traveling for business, can enjoy the convenience of a glass of their favourite wine at their hotel with a late-night snack," David MacKenzie, president and chairman of the B.C. Hotel Association, said in the release.

"We are pleased to see government supporting the hospitality industry and increased consumer choice."

Under the new policy, the licensed provider offering the

room service must be located in the same building that offers the overnight accommodation. Liquor can also only be delivered to registered guests, the release noted.

Poma Dhaliwal, president of the Alliance of Beverage Licensees, applauded Friday's announcement, describing the move as "reflective of the common-sense policy changes" for which the group has long advocated.



We are pleased to see ... increased consumer choice.

David MacKenzie

The change is part of B.C.'s liquor policy review, which is attempting to modernize and loosen restrictions previously put in place by the province's out dated liquor laws.

So far, 39 of the 73 recommendations have been implemented, including allowing liquor sales at farmers' markets and permitting bars and restaurants to offer happy hour specials, among other changes.

THANDI FLETCHER/METRO

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CRIME

Mom found guilty in disabled girl's death

A Toronto mother accused of killing her severely disabled daughter was found guilty of first-degree murder in the girl's death on Sunday.

Cindy Ali, 45, was sentenced to life in prison with no chance of parole for 25 years.

Ali had pleaded not guilty in the death of 16-year-old Cynara, who had cerebral palsy and couldn't walk, talk or feed herself.

Crown prosecutors had argued that after years of being the primary caregiver for the infant-like

Cynara, Ali smothered her daughter with a pillow and created an elaborate story about a home invasion to cover up her crime.

Ali's defence lawyers argued, however, that Cynara was cherished by her mother and died either after seizures that might have been triggered by the alleged home invasion, or from a lung infection.

Cynara was pulled off life support in a Toronto hospital in February 2011, two days after emergency personnel responding to a 911 call about a home invasion found her without vital signs.

An autopsy found Cynara's immediate cause of death was a brain injury from deprivation of oxygen, which was caused by cardiac arrest. That cardiac arrest, court heard, could have been caused by suffocation.

A pathologist called by Ali's defence lawyer testified he found "no physical evidence" of smothering in the case, but noted he also could not entirely rule it out as a possibility. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Cynara Ali. CONTRIBUTED

GREAT LAKES

U.S. city asks to draw water from basin

A request by a small city in Wisconsin to draw water from the Great Lakes is causing concern among American and Canadian communities around the basin, with some opponents warning the move could set a dangerous precedent for other jurisdictions facing water shortages.

Waukesha, a city of about 70,000 people, wants to divert water from Lake Michigan because its own aquifer is running low and the water is contaminated with high levels of naturally occurring cancer-causing radium.

The city argues that although it's located outside the bound-

ary of the Great Lakes basin, it is part of a county straddling that geographical line and therefore should be allowed access to the lakes' water. It also promises to return treated water to Lake Michigan.

Under a current regional agreement between eight U.S. states and Ontario and Quebec, diversions of water away from the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River basin are banned, with limited exceptions that can be made only when certain conditions are met.

Waukesha is seeking to become the first such exception. THE CANADIAN PRESS



U.S. President Barack Obama and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau are seen at a bilateral meeting at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in the Philippines in November last year. **Trudeau will visit the White House, speak to a women's group in New York and attend a nuclear summit in Washington throughout March.** THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trudeau's U.S. trip a statelty throwback

POLITICS

PM channels former prime minister with 3 visits in March

This month will feel like a blast to a long-lost past where Canadian prime ministers visited the United States frequently and received considerable attention while doing so.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau will be in the U.S. three times this month: for a state-level visit to the White House this week, to speak to a women's group in New York the following week and for an international nuclear

summit in Washington at the end of the month.

The number of visits in such a short period and the level of attention they're expected to garner will have a bit of a Mackenzie King feel to them.

Newspapermen would crowd into the Canadian embassy and write lengthy stories even when the famously tight-lipped King had nothing to say during his several-times-a-year visits to his buddy Franklin Roosevelt.

"It's only to be expected that when one of the capital's favourite visiting statesmen comes to town he will be wined, dined and feted," a 1942 society column in the Washington Post wrote.

The trips became less familiar and less frequent after the



A world which seldom spares a thought for Canada and Canadians is suddenly interested in Pierre Elliot Trudeau. Washington Post, 1969

Second World War.

Lester Pearson visited a few times in a short span. He was on the front page of the New York Times and Washington Post, smiling with John F. Kennedy at the family compound in Cape Cod.

His next visits were tinged with tragedy following the death of Kennedy, and he was at odds with Lyndon B. Johnson.

There's a more relevant precedent for the attention on Trudeau: his dad.

"A world which seldom spares a thought for Canada and Canadians is suddenly interested in Pierre Elliott Trudeau as the most improbable of prime ministers," began a 1969 profile in the Washington Post.

Trudeau infuriated Americans by ordering a reduction in oil exports to the U.S. by nearly one-quarter during the 1970s oil shock. On one visit, he was warned by a famous lawmaker that this would cause an "ugly relationship." THE CANADIAN PRESS

WILDLIFE

Scaring raccoons restores prey

If a tree barks in the forest, do raccoons get scared?

Apparently they do, according to a new Canadian study published last month in the journal Nature Communications.

University of Victoria PhD candidate Justin Suraci discovered the raccoon-ridding remedy after a soundtrack of animal calls ranging from bears and sea lions to man's best friend was tested on B.C.'s Gulf Islands.

The absence of natural predators such as bears and cougars, many of which were killed off by humans a century ago, means the critters can raid the tidal

flats for food — more tasty crab and fish, less green-bin scraps — all day long.

"It is officially raccoon paradise out here," said Suraci, the study's lead author. "They have huge numbers and are strikingly fearless in their behaviour."

Suraci noted the barking soundtrack caused the animals to spend 66 per cent less time foraging for seafood on the shorelines. After a month's worth of barking had passed, heavily depleted raccoon food sources, such as the red rock crab, quickly repopulated.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



The sound of dogs barking sent raccoons scurrying into a tree. CONTRIBUTED



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UNITED STATES

Nancy Reagan, 94, dies

Nancy Reagan, helpmate, backstage adviser and fierce protector of Ronald Reagan in his journey from actor to U.S. president — and finally during his 10-year battle with Alzheimer's disease — has died. She was 94.

The former first lady died Sunday at her home in Bel-Air, Calif., of congestive heart failure.

When she swept into the White House in 1981, the former Hollywood actress's partiality to designer gowns and pricey china was widely dismissed as a pre-feminist throwback. She maintained that her only mission was to back her "Ronnie" and strengthen his presidency.

Mrs. Reagan carried that charge through the rest of her days. She served as a full-time caretaker as Alzheimer's melted away her husband's memory. After his death in June 2004 she dedicated herself to tending his legacy, especially at his presidential library in California, where he had served as governor.

She also championed Alzheimer's patients, raising millions of dollars for research and breaking with fellow conservative Republicans to advocate for stem cell studies. Her dignity and perseverance in these post-White House roles helped smooth over the public's fickle perceptions of the former first lady.

She was thrust into the political life when her husband ran for California governor in 1966 and won. "The movies were custard compared to politics," Mrs. Reagan said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Ronald and Nancy Reagan
AFP/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

More flight debris found

Johny Begue, the man who found a fragment of the Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 that disappeared two years ago, has found more debris on the island of Reunion.

He turned it in to police. Begue found a fragment known as a flaperon on July 29 that investigators identified as part of the jet that disappeared with 239 people March 8, 2014.

Begue said the new item is square and measures 40 by 40 centimetres.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Women fear being seen

AFGHANISTAN

UN agency to black out pics on website to highlight plight

A United Nations agency in Afghanistan plans to stop publishing photographs on its website to highlight the plight of Afghan women ahead of International Women's Day on March 8, a UN official said on Sunday.

The move aims to bring attention to the fear many Afghan women have of the potential consequences of appearing in public or having their photographs published, said Rob Few, chief of communications for the UN Development Program in Kabul.

Photographs already on the UNDP's Afghanistan website would be blacked out starting Sunday, and replaced with the hashtag #WhereAreTheWomen, Few said.

Few said the UNDP's decision came after an Afghan woman helped by the agency to escape an abusive forced marriage said she was too afraid to have her photo published alongside a report about her experience.

"Walk down any street, or into any government office, or into any hospital, police station, business or university, and you have to ask yourself, 'Where are the women?'" Few said.

The post-2001 constitution protects women from violence and discrimination. But after more than 30 years of conflict, Afghan society has largely re-

treated into religious conservatism that has seen more women, even in Kabul, wearing the burqa and the niqab full-face veil for fear of a Taliban return.

President Ashraf Ghani has pledged that women's rights will not be eroded in exchange for peace with the Taliban.

The UNDP's decision to question the way women are treated in Afghanistan comes ahead of the anniversary on March 19 of the public murder of a woman in central Kabul, after she was falsely accused of burning a Qur'an. Farkhunda Malikzada was set upon by a mob, beaten, driven over by a car, and burned.

Her killers had their sentences commuted, and her immediate family has left the country for their own safety.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The UN Development Program in Kabul plans to stop publishing photos of women on its website ahead of International Women's Day on March 8, a UN official said on Sunday. SCREENGRAB



A man carries his baby as refugees wait near the border fence at the Greek-Macedonian border near the Greek village of Idomeni, where thousands of refugees and migrants wait to cross the border into Macedonia. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

REFUGEE CRISIS

Migrants drown off Turkey as Macedonia cuts flow

At least 25 people drowned off the Turkish coast while trying to reach Greece on Sunday, while Macedonian authorities imposed further restrictions on refugees trying to cross the Greek border.

The Turkish coast guard launched a search-and-rescue mission for other migrants believed to be missing from the accident, the state-run Anadolu Agency reported, and rescued 15 off the Aegean Sea resort of Didim, it added. The dead included three children, according to private Dogan news agency.

Meanwhile, Greek police officials said Macedonian authorities

are allowing only those from cities they consider to be affected by war to cross the Idomeni border crossing from Greece. That means people from cities such as Aleppo in Syria, for example, can enter, but those from the Syrian capital of Damascus or the Iraqi capital of Baghdad are being stopped.

The two officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak on the record.

A UN refugee agency official in Macedonia confirmed the new restrictions, and criticized the decision.

"This is not all right," said Ljubinka Brasnarska, UNHCR senior external relations assistant in Macedonia, told the AP. "Everybody from Syria who came needs international protection. This decision could be taken only by other competent international bodies, not by border authorities," she said, adding she couldn't explain the latest move.

Police said there were more than 1,000 people, mostly Syrians and Iraqis, currently stuck on the Macedonian-Serbian border.

The developments come a day before a summit between the European Union and Turkey to

discuss the crisis, which has seen more than one million people reach Europe last year.

Nearly all refugees and other migrants who enter the EU have been doing so by taking small inflatable dinghies from the Turkish coast to the nearby Greek islands. With thousands of kilometres of coastline, Greece says it cannot staunch the flow unless Turkey stops the boats from leaving its shores.

Athens has criticized Europe for not sticking to agreements to take in refugees in a relocation scheme that never really got off the ground. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ON THE BORDER

Refugees wait in camp

About 13,000-14,000 people remain stranded in Idomeni, with more arriving. The rate at which refugees are being allowed to cross into Macedonia has been reduced to a trickle. Greek police said 240 people crossed between 6 a.m. Saturday and the same time Sunday morning.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Peeple rating app finally set to launch

CONTROVERSY

Founders forced to make changes after online furor

It was reviled as the most hated app in the world, and that was before it actually existed. Now people will get a chance to judge Peeple, as it is set to become available for download on Apple's App Store on Monday.

Last October, when its creators first unveiled Peeple, which is best described as a "Yelp for Humans," it managed to do the unthinkable and unite public opinion online. The only problem was that the sentiment was almost entirely negative.

The ensuing online media firestorm had co-founders, Julia Cordray and Nicole McCullough, shamed on every

existing social network, doxed (their personal information put online) and made the target of personal threats. They retreated from most online platforms, but did post that they were listening to the criticisms, and would be changing the most contentious things about the app before launch.

That day has arrived as they prepare for the world to judge their product, as opposed to their intentions.

"I would say the death threats. That was kind of ridiculous," says Cordray, the Calgary-based CEO, when asked what was the worst thing about the social media backlash.

Cordray says there are four main changes to the app:

1. Users have to join the app to participate. You must use your Facebook profile (which has to be older than six months) to log-in and provide your phone number. Initially, anybody could create a profile



Canadian Julia Cordray, right, and her U.S. business partner Nicole McCullough, creators of the Peeple app. CONTRIBUTED

of another person, if they had that other person's email and phone number.

2. The app scrapped a five-star rating system, and instead created a Peeple number, which is the total number of online recommendations in each of three areas you can be judged in the app: professional, personal and dating.

3. Users now have full control of what is published on

their profile. Originally, positive comments would go live immediately, but lower or negative appraisals would stay private for 48 hours, as users were supposed to negotiate to improve that rating before it went public.

4. The ability to deactivate an account at any time. Initially, Peeple planned to have no way to opt out.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Peeple, a controversial app that was initially called the most hated app in the world, is coming out in a watered-down form. CONTRIBUTED

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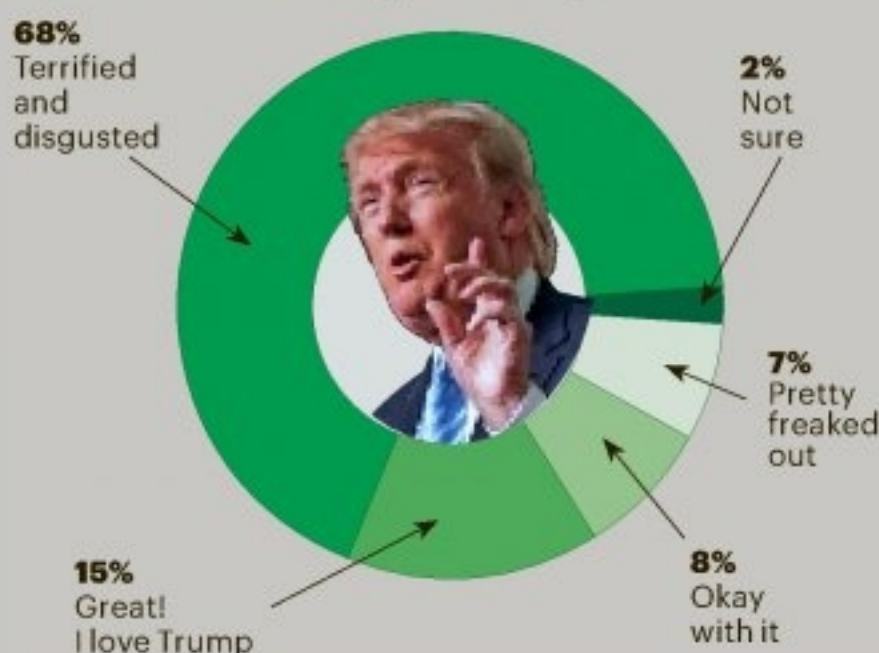
ZOOMING IN
Biologists have shown that Zika virus kills and disrupts cells of the brain's outer layer, explaining how it may be causing birth defects.

MONDAY METRO POLL

Should the U.S. dump Trump?

He's brash, he's bombastic, he's a billionaire — and he very well could become the next president of the United States. Donald Trump appears close to clinching the Republican nomination, and that has many people jumpy (and others jumping for joy). We asked our readers if they're happy about a potential Trump administration, or if they were hoping never to hear those two words together.

1 How do you feel about the prospect of a Donald Trump presidency?



2 Who would you vote for in the Republican primary?



WE ASKED Metro readers

Trump is a joke that went too far. This man with the keys to nuclear weapons is a terrifying thought.

I'm concerned all of the U.S. has gone koo koo bananas!

If Donald Trump takes office, he will create an atmosphere of hate and intolerance.

The U.S. doesn't need another Clinton in the White House. Trump may be more presidential than you think.

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ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview



The Trump campaign looks, quite simply, a lot like America

So far, the Republican presidential primary has been described as a schoolyard, a circus, a joke, a nightmare, a problem to be fixed, a slow-motion train wreck, the beginning of the end of the Republican Party, the beginning of a new kind of political party.

But for those of us seated comfortably on the outside, it has looked, simply, a lot like America.

Those flabbergasted by The Donald's seeming supremacy thus far — I understand. They see things changing dramatically before their eyes, and it scares the hell out of them.

But what, really, is changing? It is not American culture, which birthed Trump, and which often seems to prize individual wealth and fame above all else. What is changing is American politics, insofar as it is reflecting the broader zeitgeist.

In Trump's words on Thursday, before he called Mitt Romney "irrelevant" and spent the next 30 minutes berating him: "This is not a plateau, this is a movement. We have a movement going on, folks."

Indeed. What is Donald Trump if not the inevitable progeny of American popular culture, and the logical end to it? In 2012, one study found that 10- to 12-year-old American kids wanted, above all, to be famous when they grow up, and that they wanted the fame for its own sake, though

surely wouldn't mind the money. As an American friend and I joke, in Canada, people say, "If I was rich ..." and in the U.S., it's, "When I'm rich ..."

Trump's outsized everything — bombast, ego, tanning regime, verbiage, so-called "policies," insults, outrage — is politics, supersized, just like the cliché American diet.

This is not to say that Trump is not disturbing. Like many, I've been guzzling Trump think-pieces like Pepto-Bismol, but nothing calmed that burning feeling in the pit of my stomach until a recent Vox article. It equates Trump-love with authoritarianism, and illuminates the existence of a distinct voter in the U.S. — the authoritarian. A person who prizes order and conformity above all else. A person who approves of Trump's regressive slogan and his alpha male persona, which promises to strong-arm the country into submission.

The article describes how a variety of factors, including decades of fear-mongering from right-wing media, the collapse of the middle class and dramatic social change like same-sex marriage have combined to trigger authoritarian tendencies in enough Americans to make The Donald credible.

In other words: Trump is suited exactly to his time and place, in the good old U.S. of A.

Christy Clark owes her predecessor a nice gift

CAPITAL IDEA

Kate Webb



I hope Christy Clark sent a nice, fat gift basket to former premier Gordon Campbell last week to thank him for giving her the perfect shield for defending her five years of climate inaction.

As the country's premiers met last week in Vancouver with Prime Minister Trudeau to discuss a nationwide carbon tax, Clark got to smile for the cameras while her environment minister, Mary Polak, faced tough questions.

Speaking to CBC on Tuesday, Polak tried to deflect criticism from Simon Fraser University environmental economist Mark Jaccard by citing policies and circumstances that have nothing to do with Clark's government.

Let's dissect her talking points, shall we?

"We still have one of the world's highest and broadest carbon taxes," Polak said, in response to the fact B.C. is not on track to meet its goal of cutting emissions to a third below 2007 levels by 2020.

That may be true, but that's kind of like being the fastest sloth — that most governments around the world have failed to act does not excuse our shortcomings. And it was Campbell who ratcheted our revenue-neutral carbon tax up to \$30 a tonne, not Clark, so she can't take any credit for that. In 2012 Clark froze the carbon tax, which was intended to continue increasing by \$10 a year, and in so doing, froze our ability to claim a continuing leadership role.

Jaccard's studies have shown that without stricter regulations on carbon emissions, carbon taxes in Canada would need to be gradually increased to \$160 a tonne by 2030 in order to be effective. We're still far short of

where we need to be, and our province's own climate action team recommends B.C. resume annual increases in 2018.

"We are still the only jurisdiction that is carbon-neutral across our public sector," Polak went on.

That happened in 2010, before Clark was premier.

"We are still the ones who are leading in terms of electricity production," Polak continued. "Not only do we have almost 98 per cent of our electricity provided clean last year, but about 25 per cent of that was from small renewable projects."

OK, so what? According to our energy ministry's own website, B.C. is "blessed with an abundant and varied supply of clean, affordable and renewable electricity." That doesn't make us leaders, it makes us damn lucky, and it doesn't let us off the hook for dealing with those sectors that do pump huge amounts

of carbon into the atmosphere — namely, transportation and industry.

Clark hinted last week that she's considering raising B.C.'s carbon tax. Polak admitted more needs to be done.

But talk is cheap, especially in a pre-election year. We haven't seen any substantial action from this government on climate change since Campbell left office in 2011.

Thanks to Campbell's vision and leadership, the premier enjoyed a pretty easy ride last week in the national spotlight.

She should probably have that gift basket delivered post haste to Campbell's home in the U.K. — ideally on a flight carbon-neutralized by offsets (I mean, she would have to, thanks to Campbell's public-sector law). I hear he's partial to English tea and biscuits.

Kate Webb is an unapologetic muckraker and political junkie who lives and writes in Vancouver.

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Like Beyoncé sings, “best revenge is your paper.” **Metro’s finance guru Lesley-Anne Scorgie** has only five more weeks to break Annick and Yolanda of any bad financial habits and to build a budget for their future.

Budgeting for Beyoncé



LESLEY-ANNE SCORGIE
metromoney

THE CHALLENGE: At the start of January Metro’s financial guru Lesley-Anne Scorgie started performing a financial makeover on two young women. Annick, a Calgary-based 24-year-old, and Yolanda, a Mississauga-based 27-year-old, have just 12 weeks to get their financial houses in order and drastically improve their net worth (assets minus liabilities). Follow along @LesleyScorgie #MetroMoneyMakeover to see their progress.

THIS WEEK: “What-if” expenses can throw you off budget and Annick must build up a financial buffer to weather these infrequent cash-crunches. Should these emergency funds be used for wants as well as needs?

NEXT WEEK: Yolanda’s frugality is really paying off. She’s up to \$600 per month in savings (outside of her pension) for her down payment. Can she afford to continue her generous donations to sponsor two children and tithe to her place of worship? Stay tuned.

LESLEY-ANNE SCORGIE IS A BESTSELLING AUTHOR AND FOUNDER OF MEVEST, A MONEY COACHING SERVICE FOR CANADIANS. FOLLOW HER @LESLEYSCORGIE



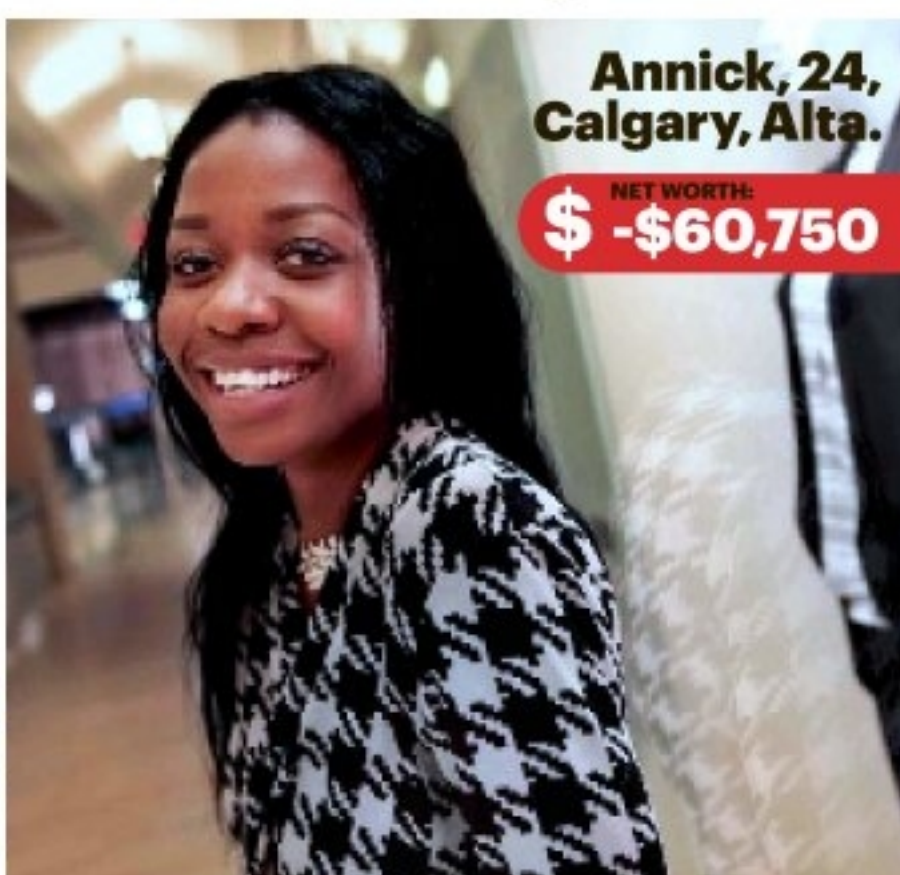
Annick spent \$322 on a ticket to see Beyoncé in May, but she’s promised to downgrade her seats if she misses the mark on her ambitious debt repayment plan. GETTY IMAGES; JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

THE SITUATION
Even if Michael Jackson came back from the dead, Annick wouldn’t pay as much to see him perform as she has to watch Beyoncé in Edmonton this May. Tickets went on sale two weeks ago and Annick, plus one friend, jumped on presale seats for a whopping \$322 a piece. What?

I get it. Beyoncé is killer in concert and Annick needs to reward herself every so often. But would \$200 tickets have done the trick?

The price of Annick’s Beyoncé ticket is equivalent to 11 per cent of her outstanding consumer debt. In Annick’s 60/60/60 debt reduction plan, where she eliminates one of her consumer debts every 60 days, she’s earmarked \$950 in March towards debt repayment. We ran the numbers and Annick needs to pick up extra shifts at her part-time job (she also has a regular full-time gig) this month to afford both Beyoncé and this month’s debt payments.

Over a virtual Skype hand-



Annick, 24, Calgary, Alta.

NET WORTH:
\$ - \$60,750

shake last week, Annick and I agreed that if she hasn’t made her target for debt repayment by March 15, she’ll trade in her premium Beyoncé tickets for the nosebleed seats. I think she can do it!

THE LESSON
Even the most frugal and financially dedicated people still need fun and entertainment in their life. Otherwise, they’ll end up with bags of money, flaky friends and lonely. The key however, is to strike a bal-

ance — a.k.a. frugal rewards that fill your soul, not drain your bank account.

One of the most effective approaches to frugal rewards is to build up a financial buffer. It’s similar to building emergency funds for legit “what-if” scenarios. You simply open a separate account from the one your paycheck gets deposited into, and contribute in regular automatic intervals such as \$25 bi-weekly. That way, when trips to Miami or encounters with Beyoncé pop up, you can

afford the purchase and shed any overspending guilt.

Annick requires two financial buffer accounts; the first is for fun splurges and she’ll start contributing \$20 per paycheque into a high-interest savings account for that. The second, is an emergency fund that she’ll build within her TFSA by contributing \$25 biweekly. Having both will ensure her “what-if” needs and wants are covered. When she’s consumer debt-free this July, she can amp up her contributions to both.

NET WORTH

THE PROGRESS

Since starting the Metro Money Makeover in January, Annick has added \$1,700 to her net worth by reducing her debt and starting to save for retirement in her group RRSP through work.

Assets

RRSP \$600
Total assets: \$600

Liabilities

Student loan \$58,500
Visa \$1,400
MasterCard \$500
Other loans \$950
Total liabilities: \$61,350

Net worth (\$60,750)

PERSONAL FINANCE

Not paying rent? Time to grow up

Gail Vaz-Oxlade
For Metro Canada



I am constantly amazed at the number of people I meet who, as working adults living with their parents, pay no rent.

Some of you are making a damn fine living. And you’re spending. But, for whatever reason, your parents don’t think you need to be paying rent. And neither do you. If you’re one of those people — or one of those parents — it’s time to get real.

When adult children live at home, work, and pay no rent, they are learning to live on a disposable income they will never again have in their lives. Even if the reason they are living at home is to pay off debt, not contributing to the household in which they live keeps them in the mindset of children.

You can hardly expect to be treated like an adult if you do not assume the responsibilities of an adult. And what will happen when you finally do move out? (You do want to eventually move out, don’t you?) How will

you have any sense of what it costs to live a real life if you’ve allowed yourself to be sheltered from reality well into adulthood?

I’ve seen it again and again. Jack and Diane both lived at home before they married. They had lots of money for concerts, shopping, snappy clothes and eating out. Now they’re married. Having saved a down payment — that’s a good thing, right? — they bought a home.

But Diane can’t sleep at night because of the bills piling up. And Jack thinks he’s going to be trapped in his house for the

rest of his life because he doesn’t have any extra money now that he’s king of his castle.

If you have parents who say, “I can’t take money from my kids,” that’s no excuse. If you were living on your own, you’d easily be spending 35 per cent of your income on housing, never mind food. So you best start setting aside that money as if you were paying rent.

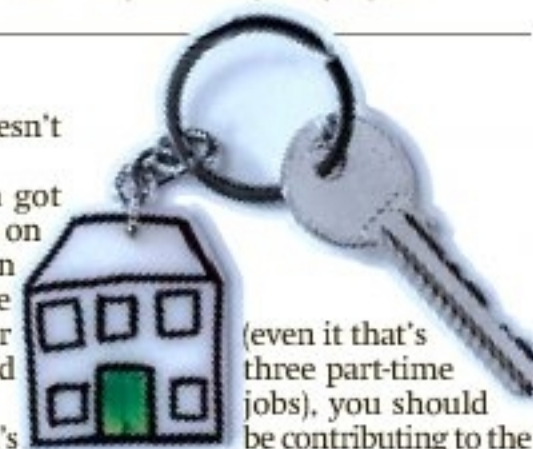
Learning to live on a realistic disposable income is how you’ll make the transition to independence viable. If you’re in a relationship with someone

who lives at home and doesn’t pay rent, heads up.

When Bobby and Jean got together, Bobby had been on his own for years, but Jean had never been responsible for anything more than her own phone bill. He inherited a baby from her parents.

Ditto Janet and Brad. Brad’s mother did his laundry, cooked his meals, and wouldn’t take a penny from him. Now prying money out of him for things like rent and food is a constant fight for Janet. Brad just can’t give up the lifestyle his mommy let him get used to.

When should you start setting aside your rent money? The minute you’re working full time



(even if that’s three part-time jobs), you should be contributing to the household so you learn what real life costs.

Or you should be setting aside that money for the future if your parents adamantly refuse to take it. The point is to live as if you’d spent that money on rent.

For more money advice, visit Gail’s website at gailvazoxlade.com

Have cramps? Take the day off

HEALTH

U.K. company's planned period policy sparks debate

Sick days are standard in most organizations, but a British company may soon allow its female employees leave to cope with a specific ailment: period pain.

Bristol-based community hub Coexist is aiming to develop a "period policy" which could potentially include allowing women time off during menstruation. Coexist is hosting a Pioneering Period Policy event slated for March 15.

"The purpose of this policy initiative is to create a positive approach to menstruation and the menstrual cycle that empowers women and men and supports the effectiveness and well-being of the organization," reads a portion of the event overview.

Coexist looks to potentially follow the path blazed by countries where menstrual leave has been enshrined in law.

Japan enacted menstruation



A 2005 Canadian study found 51 per cent of 934 women reported their activities had been limited due to cramping during menstruation. ISTOCK

leave in 1947. In Taiwan, female workers "having difficulties" working during menstruation can request a one-day leave each month. South Korea also offers

paid menstrual leave.

In an emailed statement, Nike said workers at contract factories manufacturing for the sportswear giant are provided men-

strual leave in countries where this benefit is protected under local law.

However, the company doesn't have a formal menstrual leave

policy. A 2005 Canadian study looking at the prevalence of women with primary dysmenorrhea — recurrent pain and cramping during menstruation — found that severe symptoms could notably impact their daily lives.

Among 934 women with the condition, researchers said 51 per cent reported that their activities had been limited, and 17 per cent reported missing school or work.

"There's a significant amount of women that have some pain with their periods, and in a portion of those women it is quite unmanageable," said Dr. Catherine Allaire, medical director of the B.C. Women's Centre for Pelvic Pain and Endometriosis.

Allaire said some women can be bedridden as a result of severe discomfort, which can also be a symptom of endometriosis — a painful condition where the tissue lining the uterus grows outside the organ. "There's a discomfort in discussing private problems of that sort," said Allaire. "It's also not a cancer or anything deadly, so it's not something that people understand can cause so much disability."

Toronto-based human resources specialist Lisa Kay said the introduction of menstrual leave has the potential to raise positive and negative issues in the workplace.

"From the employee's perspective, it certainly is nice to know that your employer appreciates that this is a challenging time for women, and would support a woman taking this time off if necessary. But I do think it's awkward for a woman to approach a male employer," said Kay, president and lead consultant of Peak Performance Human Resources.

"There would need to be resources in place or support systems in place to make it feasible for women to take advantage of this."

From an HR perspective, Kay expressed concerns over instituting a policy that would benefit a portion of the company's workforce.

"It really only represents a small demographic of employees who suffer from this particular ailment and it impacts their work. There's thousands of other things," said Kay.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Ferreira will appear on Jeopardy on March 11 — likely among the last Canadians to do so. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

I'll take Canadian contestants for \$400

JEOPARDY

Victor Ferreira's spot on quiz show a dream come true

There's never been anything trivial about Victor Ferreira's Jeopardy obsession.

When his family immigrated to Cambridge, Ont., from the Azores, a 3-year-old Ferreira had access to only a few channels. And amid screenings of Beetlejuice and The Price Is Right, the precocious toddler who spoke only Portuguese became weirdly fixated on this blue-hued quiz-show and its demanding esoterica.

"I understood, like, none of it," Ferreira recalled. "But it was

a little world I could uncover."

And the rewards for Ferreira's Jeopardy zealotry really haven't ceased since: the show helped him learn English, then led to his adolescent adoration for Reach for the Top, and, finally, to the show's sparkling Culver City, Calif., studio and a meeting with Alex Trebek.

This Friday, Ferreira will finally compete on Jeopardy after years of trying. And he so happens to be appearing just after the show announced that Canadians are no longer able to apply due to online privacy laws — so he could be one of the last Canucks quizzing.

"After watching the show for so long and dreaming of being on it, it's surreal," Ferreira said. "You're stepping into a real-life dream."

Ferreira grew up in a "very humble" household, the young-

est of three siblings all a decade-plus older ("I was a mistake baby"). His parents had elementary-school educations and worked long hours to provide, his dad as a construction worker, his mother as a nanny, until debilitating osteoarthritis forced her into retirement.

It didn't take long for his siblings to realize Victor was different.

"From two years old, he always wanted to get into conversations with the grown-ups," remembered his brother Rui.

"He always had a lot of questions," agreed his sister, Natércia Hennessey. "I'm so happy that we have Google now, but back then we didn't. The only way I could fuel his mind was to get him a library card."

After a distinguished high school stint, Ferreira was ac-

cepted to McMaster for health sciences, thus becoming the first person in his family to go to university. He eventually achieved a PhD in medical sciences and now works as a researcher at the University Health Network.

He's been trying to get on Jeopardy for years, including a near-Trebek experience in 2011 when he passed the first stage of screening. He learned just before Christmas that he was successful this time, and immediately began training with the sort of rabid rigour usually reserved for boxing-movie montages.

His specialties are science and pop culture, so he focused on his weaknesses, including poetry and Civil War minutiae. He downloaded his own buzzer sounds, staged trial games against friends, and practised his clicker timing by watching

Jeopardy with a yellow highlighter in hand.

He shot his show on Jan. 27, journeying with his girlfriend to California for the first time. The next day was his 30th birthday, which they celebrated playing in the waves of Venice Beach, left alone in the 22 C mildness.

He can't talk about the outcome, but he delighted in meeting Trebek. He had heard the host could be a "little cranky" but instead found him generously open, game to chat about the Azores and joke about the American-centric questions.

As far as how Ferreira felt stepping onstage? We'll take "unbelievably nervous" for \$1,000, Alex.

"On a scale from one to 10, I was a 15," he said. "You just hope you don't make a total ass of yourself on TV."

Well, his family would have been proud no matter the outcome.

His siblings — two of whom work at a Denso manufacturing plant in Guelph, another at an ONroute in Cambridge — speak glowingly of their baby brother. Hennessey recalls filming Victor's high school graduation, where he was valedictorian, and ruining the audio. "The whole thing, all you can hear is me crying."

And of course, Ferreira's parents, who don't speak much English, are thrilled.

"They usually watch the Portuguese evening news, then turn over and watch Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy — two shows with the highest degree of difficulty for non-native speakers," he said. "They've been telling all their friends to tune in and watch."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Peet stars in the Duplass brothers' HBO series *Togetherness*. CONTRIBUTED



JOHANNA SCHNELLER **WHAT I'M WATCHING**

High-octane tension in the ordinary

THE SHOW: *Togetherness*, Season 2, Episode 2 (HBO)
THE MOMENT: The Game

In a L.A. backyard, Tina (Amanda Peet), her sister Michelle (Melanie Lynskey), Michelle's husband Brett (Mark Duplass), Brett's best friend Alex (Steve Zissis) and Alex's new girlfriend Christy (Ginger Gonzaga) play a party game: Someone names a movie, the next person names a star from it. Simple? Hah.

In season one, Tina rejected Alex. Now he's successful, and Tina's jealous of Christy, who's young and hot. Christy is onto Tina. So when Tina screws up the game, Christy humiliates her by condescending to her. "You can reject a clue if it's too hard," he says, as if to a child. She offers to switch seats, "so it will be easier for you."

"You don't have to change the rules for me," Tina says, eye-balling her. "I'm a big girl."

For four minutes (!) the tension escalates. The players squirm.

This show, created by Duplass, Zissis, and Duplass's brother Jay (who co-stars on *Transparent*), is so good it makes me mad. I'm irked that I'm not pals with the Duplasses and their gang of creatives. I'd voluntarily hold their boom, and I hate holding things over my head. I can barely change my shower curtain.

The whole season shines. Peet and Lynskey are especially mov-

ing. And anyone who doubts that drama can be wrung from seemingly ordinary moments should study the end of this scene, as Tina and Christy bet on whether Jennifer Grey costarred in Ferris Bueller's Day Off. It's like the car chase in *The French Connection*, but on lawn chairs.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

Aim to get diversity down to a fine art

MULTICULTURAL LANDSCAPE

Galleries acknowledge need to mix it up more

Catherine Kustanczy
For Metro Canada

Everyone has their own idea of what Canadian art is. The landscapes depicted by the Group of Seven painters in the early 20th century, beautiful as they are, don't fully represent the Canada of the 21st century, particularly its racial diversity.

A report published in Canadian Art magazine this past spring examined demographics of solo exhibitions of living artists at Canadian public institutions had disappointing results: 56 per cent of shows were by white male artists. Just 11 per cent were by non-white male and female artists.

"A lot of change needs to happen," says Sandra Brewster, a multi-media artist whose work examines race and identity.



Visitors look at an exhibition of landscape paintings at the Glenbow Museum in Calgary. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

"Institutions must engage with these artists."

Charmaine Lurch agrees. "If we're not in those power structures, in those areas, then we're not known, and not invited in," says the award-winning arts researcher and interdisciplinary artist. "I think our work is seen

more as a decoration."

Engagement is just one of the steps in a larger overall process, says Andrew Hunter, the Fredrik S. Eaton Curator of Canadian Art at the Art Gallery of Ontario. "One of the things we've been talking a lot about is, what is it visitors expect? What are their

preconceptions? If you continue to think of your country and your country's story through images of an empty landscape, that doesn't encourage them to think of the cultural diversity of the country."

Melanie Kjørlien, Vice President of Access, Collections

and Exhibitions at the Glenbow Museum in Calgary, echoes this. "People have a greater awareness of the Group of Seven and Emily Carr — it's something they think they should see. We put those things in our mix of programming, but we also try to include other stuff that people might not

be familiar with. We are conscious of wanting to add to the collection things that reflect the community, including diverse artists coming to the fore."

Both Lurch and Brewster say leadership at Canadian arts institutions should more accurately reflect Canada's multicultural landscape. "If they feel that diversity is important, which is something we all keep hearing about, then they should find strategies to make diversity happen — in offices, in programming, in their collections, and in their audiences," Brewster says.

Hunter agrees. "The mix of (leadership) has to be reflective, and I think that's a challenge for many institutions. Many are making strides but everybody also recognizes there's a long way to go."



We are conscious of wanting to add to the collection things that reflect the community

Melanie Kjørlien,
Glenbow Museum

FASHION

Westwood's husband debuts first runway show in Paris

Vivienne Westwood declared her husband Andreas Kronthaler "the world's greatest designer" as he emerged from her flamboyant shadow Saturday with his first solo Paris show.

The Austrian-born designer — who says he suspects he is the basis for comedian Sacha Baron Cohen's 2009 fashion satire Bruno — lived up to his larger-than-life reputation with a spectacular explosion of convention-defying decadence.

As guests cheered his chutzpah, Westwood confessed to reporters that Kronthaler — who is 25 years her junior — had long been the power behind the throne.

"Over the years he has taken over the experimental stuff and I have had to follow. He calls me his muse. I think it was time the public understood the truth of this," said the 74-year-old queen of the punk fashion revolution. "I think he is the greatest designer in the world."

"He wouldn't like me to say that because he is always frightened. I have learnt so much from him," she added.

Kronthaler, who has worked closely with Westwood for years both as a model, stylist and muse, sent a dizzying array of disparate looks down the run-

way in the show billed as "Andreas Kronthaler for Vivienne Westwood."

All were in one way or another gender bending, with priestly girls, men in gold lame dresses and snake-skin effect boots, and women in oversized Alpine jackets from his native Tyrol.

Some of his models looked like senators emerging from a Roman bathhouse in blood-red togas while others wore long trailing Tibetan monk's hats, but all — male and female — wore platform shoes and boots.

Kronthaler's solo debut came on the same day that former super-model Jerry Hall married the octogenarian media mogul Rupert Murdoch in London wearing a comparatively restrained light blue

Westwood dress.

And Westwood admitted that when she first met Kronthaler "he was too big, he needed pulling down with an anchor."

He is a perfectionist, she said, "Every stitch is perfect, it has to be perfect for him."

But Westwood insisted he was also a great innovator.

"Nobody has done what he has done and put a toga on top of pants," she said.

She said they would continue to design her main collections together as a couple, but that they were going to reduce their line, because it was "better for the environment... We have got too big already."

Westwood revealed she was really taken by Kronthaler's togas and male dresses, which she urged more men to wear.

"Unisex is good for the environment." Couples would not "have to buy so many clothes," she insisted, if they only shared their wardrobes.

AFP



GOSSIP BRIEFS

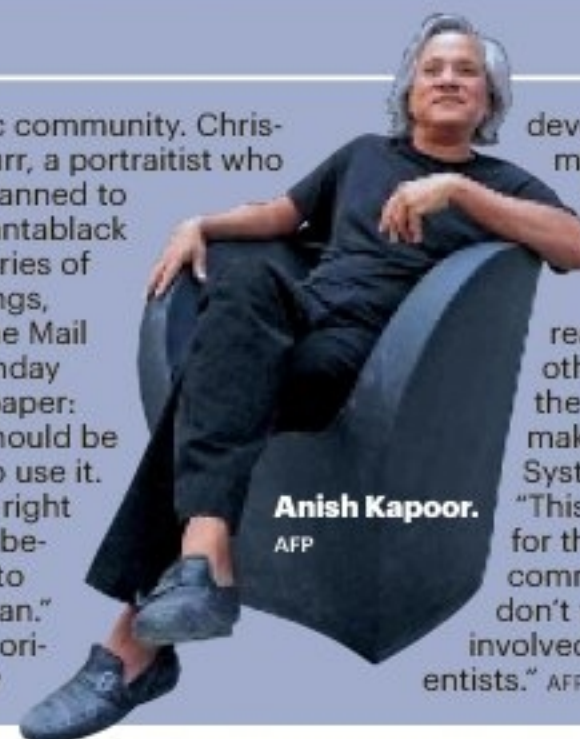
'Vantablack' colour monopoly angers artists

Sculptor Anish Kapoor sparked debate in Britain Thursday by buying the exclusive right to use a pigment said to be the blackest ever, to the fury of others in the artistic community. Kapoor, whose huge works of public art are landmarks in cities from London to Chicago, has snapped up the rights to Vantablack, which absorbs 99.96 per cent of light. The move has drawn some criticism in Britain's

artistic community. Christian Furr, a portraitist who had planned to use Vantablack in a series of paintings, told the Mail on Sunday newspaper: "We should be able to use it. It isn't right that it belongs to one man." It was originally

Anish Kapoor.
AFP

developed for military and aeronautical purposes. Asked about the reaction of other artists, the colour's makers Nano-Systems said: "This debate is for the artistic community, we don't want to get involved. We are scientists." AFP



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If the whole world went to the hogs

Disney's new movie Zootopia got us thinking: what if animals really did rule the world? It's not the first movie to envision an alternate version of human society. As these examples illustrate, there are some serious advantages to living in animal-centric worlds. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Babe (1995)

The kingdom: Modest barnyard with wide variety of affable talking creatures and kindly god figure Farmer Hoggett

Benefits: High tolerance for citizens with pronounced eccentricities (i.e., pigs who think they're dogs), local fairs that offer American Idol-like opportunities to emerging talents

Drawbacks: Like the goose says, "Dinner means death! Death means carnage! Christmas means carnage!"



Ants (1998)

The kingdom: An ant colony in New York's Central Park that's presented as a totalitarian, rigidly conformist society with billions of inhabitants.

Benefits: Life is hard but at least the bars have plenty of "aphid beer" and line dancing.

Drawbacks: Wars with acid-spewing termites, bitter class divisions between upper-crust ants and their proletariat lessers, constant threat of being crushed by giant sneaker tread.



Kung Fu Panda (2008)

The kingdom: The verdant valleys and majestic mountains of ancient China except most of the inhabitants don't need coats to stay warm.

Benefits: Remarkably inclusive attitudes to potentially divisive issues of species difference (tigers and monkeys enjoy friendships with insects and birds) and non-traditional families.

Drawbacks: Sizeism still rampant, inner peace as hard to achieve as ever.



Fantastic Mr. Fox (2009)

The kingdom: Parallel world of nattily dressed woodland creatures in and underneath bucolic English countryside.

Benefits: Excellent tunnel system, reputable badger attorneys, strong support for local newspaper, relaxed attitude to table manners.

Drawbacks: Rifle-toting farmers living in close vicinity, hard to maintain look of freshly pressed shirt.



Planet of the Apes (1968)

The kingdom: Brutal world in which primates occupy all roles of an early industrial society. It's really a postapocalyptic Earth!

Benefits: Chance to look bad-ass in a black leather vest, easy to get hairless-ape slaves to do the stuff you don't want to.

Drawbacks: Restrictive caste system that limits gorillas to roles as authoritarian right-wingers and chimps as intellectual liberals, no ethical constraints to prevent chimp-on-human experiments.

NEW FILM

Robert Carlyle tackles macabre tale



Robert Carlyle directs, and stars alongside Emma Thompson in *The Legend of Barney Thomson*. HANDOUT

The Legend of Barney Thomson is a movie Robert Carlyle was almost destined to make. The Once Upon a Time star not only plays the lead character, he also directed the Scottish black comedy about an awkward barber who unwittingly becomes a serial killer.

"I was offered this four or five times purely as an actor over a period of five or six years," he says. "I was over here in Vancouver working and a friend of mine said he had a Scottish script that I might be interested in. I said, 'Of course I'll read it,' and it was that again. I can't get away from it."

The script is based on The Long Midnight of Barney Thomson by Douglas Lindsay, a novel The Scotsman described as "gleefully macabre."

Carlyle, a Maryhill, Glasgow native, liked the screenplay but says, "there were certain aspects of Glasgow culture that were missing from it."

"In Glasgow we have a way of speaking to one another that is kind of harsh. That was missing."

He drew from personal experience to find Glasgow sites that "fitted in with Barney's life."

"A lot of the locations you see in the film like the Barrowland Ballroom are places that are kind of dying and might not be around for much longer so I thought this was an interesting way of documenting some of these places."

Initially he signed on only as an actor but soon found himself doing double duty.

"Believe me when I say, it certainly wasn't my idea. I don't know if (the idea) came from the financiers or not. I can't remember but from whichever source it came from it seemed to be an interesting hook to hang this on that not only was I going to be in it but direct it also. That enthused the financiers."

The first time feature film director says he took his lead for the tone of the movie from the book and the script.

"Let's not have the camera moving around and spinning around in circles. Let's spend the time on the performances and not the camera angles, which you end up cutting anyway."

He recruited an all-star cast, including Sir Tom Courtney, Ray Winstone and his old Trainspotting cast mate James Cosmo. In a casting coup, he hired two time Oscar winner Emma Thompson to play against type as Barney's monstrous mom.

"Many, many years ago at the beginning of my career she did a piece on Scotland TV called Tutti Frutti," he says. "She's played a Scot in that, from Glasgow. I thought, 'She's remarkable. I thought she was English.' Then suddenly I realized, she is English and just did this terrific accent. There's not many English people who can do a Scottish accent that well."



There's not many English people who can do a Scottish accent that well

Robert Carlyle talking about co-star Emma Thompson

The Legend of Barney Thomson has already won Best Picture at the Scottish BAFTAs and Carlyle is keeping busy on the small screen as Mr. Gold/Rumplestiltskin on Once Upon a Time.

It's his next project, however, that has the Internet buzzing. In May he'll reprise the role of the pint glass-wielding psychopath Francis Begbie in the sequel to Trainspotting alongside the film's original director and cast.

"We were all very emotional when we read it," he says, "even Danny (Boyle), because these four characters have followed us around for 20 years. Where ever I go people are talking about Begbie. It is very close to us." RICHARD CROUSE/FOR METRO

Lionel Messi scored twice in a 4-0 win over Eibar as FC Barcelona ran its unbeaten run to 36 games in all competitions



Caps 'gift' Impact a win in season opener

MLS

Blunders prove costly to begin 2016 season



Cam Tucker
Metro | Vancouver

The anticipation for Sunday's Vancouver Whitecaps home opener had been growing greater by the day.

The big moment arrived with so much optimism, yet it ended in disappointment. The Whitecaps lost to the visiting Montreal Impact by a final score of 3-2 in front of an announced sellout crowd of 22,120 fans at BC Place Stadium.

It was an afternoon of costly blunders for the Whitecaps, who were among the more stout defensive teams in Major League Soccer last year.

All three Montreal goals were the result of defensive gaffes from the Whitecaps. Ignacio Piatti scored twice for the Impact. He opened the scoring in the 19th minute and then tallied Montreal's final goal of the day in the 88th minute, giving the Impact a two-goal lead and killing Vancouver's chances of a second-half comeback.

"I think we gifted Montreal the win today. That's an honest assessment," said Whitecaps coach Carl Robinson.

Following the match, Whitecaps goalkeeper David Ousted called himself out for what he deemed one of his worst per-



Ignacio Piatti of the Montreal Impact scores one of his two goals of the game against the Whitecaps' Kendall Weston on Sunday. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

SUNDAY At BC Place



formances since joining the Vancouver side in 2013.

On Montreal's second goal, Ousted and teammate Kendall Weston went to converge on a pass through to Impact forward

Dominic Oduro.

At the last second, Ousted slid to avoid Weston, allowing the ball to pass by both Vancouver players and leaving Oduro with a free lane to a wide open net for the easy goal.

"On a personal level, that's some of the worst I've played as a Whitecap and I'm gutted for the team," he said.

"It was all me. I come out and I think I've got it. Should've communicated better to Ken-

dall and then I tried to slide but ended up not wanting to collide with (Weston) and sliding past the ball."

Jordan Harvey and Weston scored for Vancouver.

Whitecaps forward Octavio Rivero had six shots, including four on target and a crossbar in the opening half.

The Whitecaps don't play again until Saturday. They're on the road to face Sporting Kansas City.

Froese impresses in Vancouver debut

It's not like Kianz Froese is bragging, but the 19-year-old Canadian midfielder dropped 15 pounds this off-season in preparation for the 2016 Major League Soccer campaign.

What's his secret?

"Running. A lot. We did a lot of running. We had specific fitness plans and we didn't want fitness to be an issue," said Froese on Friday, prior to the Vancouver Whitecaps' season opener versus the Montreal Impact at BC Place Stadium on

Sunday.

That commitment to fitness this winter left a favourable impression on coach Carl Robinson, and after a strong showing in the pre-season, Froese was rewarded with the start for the Whitecaps in the opener.

It's just the second start of his MLS career.

"I think you always have butterflies before the game," said Froese.

He had two shots in the opening half and nearly scored the

first goal of the match, as his blistering shot sailed just over the Montreal net.

He left the match in the 66th minute as the Whitecaps opted to bring Blas Perez into the game in search of the equalizer.

"I thought he did well," said Robinson of Froese. "Based upon pre-season, I thought he had the energy and his pre-season performances deserved the nod."

"He got the chance today and he didn't let himself down."

CAM TUCKER/METRO



Kianz Froese MLS

MLS

Timbers still have upper hand on Crew

New season, same result.

Fanendo Adi scored in the 79th minute and the defending champion Portland Timbers defeated the Columbus Crew 2-1 on Sunday in a rematch of last year's MLS Cup final.

The Timbers won that one 2-1, too.

All 20 MLS teams opened the league's 21st season on Soccer Sunday. Portland kicked off the season by unveiling a championship banner hung

in the rafters of the north end of Providence Park.

Diego Valeri's first-half goal gave the Timbers the early lead until Federico Higuain's high-light-worthy bicycle kick drew the Crew even in the 68th minute. Adi's goal gave Portland its first March win since 2012.

This is the only regular-season meeting between the two teams this season. Portland now leads the series 3-2-2. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"We showed today that we can be even better. And I'm confident that we can."

Timbers coach Caleb Porter

NBA

Champs look like chumps vs. Lakers

Jordan Clarkson scored 25 points, D'Angelo Russell added 21 and the Los Angeles Lakers stunned the Golden State Warriors 112-95 on Sunday, handing the defending NBA champions just their sixth loss of the season, all on the road.

Kobe Bryant added 12 points in helping the Lakers earn one of the biggest upsets in NBA history and their biggest victory in a downtrodden farewell season for Bryant, who spent the fourth quarter on the bench resting his aching right shoulder.

Stephen Curry led the War-

+ RARE LOSS

The loss snapped Golden State's seven-game winning streak.

riors with 18 points on a day when they were awful offensively. Klay Thompson added 15 points, but the Splash Brothers were a combined 1-for-18 from three-point range. In all, the Warriors missed 26 of 30 attempts from long range.

Golden State fell to 55-6 and the Lakers improved to 13-51.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



IN BRIEF

Jacobs, Simmons go 3-0

In Draw 5 of the Tim Hortons Brier in Ottawa on Sunday night, Northern Ontario's Brad Jacobs defeated B.C.'s Jim Cotter 5-3, Newfoundland and Labrador's Brad Gushue beat Jamie Koe of Northwest Territories 6-3, Manitoba's Mike McEwen beat New Brunswick's Mike Kennedy 6-3 and Quebec's Jean-Michel Menard held off P.E.I.'s Adam Casey 4-2.

Jacobs and Canada's Pat Simmons were unbeaten teams at 3-0 and Alberta's Kevin Koe sat just behind at 2-1. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Report: Utley's two-game suspension has been lifted

After all that, Chase Utley is safe. The two-game suspension imposed on the Los Angeles Dodgers infielder after his hard takeout slide broke the leg of Mets shortstop Ruben Tejada in last year's playoffs has been dropped.

On Sunday, a person briefed on the decision told The Associated Press that Major League Baseball and the players' union had managed to reach an agreement that rescinded the ban.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Upsets choking out UFC's plans

UFC 196

Diaz and Tate dispatch McGregor, Holm in Vegas

Moments after Nate Diaz choked out Conor McGregor and punched a big hole in the UFC's plans, Diaz took the microphone and triumphantly, profanely declared his victory was "no surprise!"

Maybe not to Diaz. The rest of the sport is still reeling from a revolutionary Saturday night at the MGM Grand Garden Arena.

The pandemonium caused by Miesha Tate and Diaz had barely subsided when everyone else began pondering the future created by their back-to-back upset victories at UFC 196.

Tate and Diaz scrapped some tentative plans for the promotion's landmark UFC 200 show in July. They also created tantalizing new possibilities in a sport that isn't afraid of a little chaos.

After his stunning dismissal of the touted McGregor, Diaz



Nate Diaz chokes out Conor McGregor during UFC 196. REY DEL RIO/GETTY IMAGES

(20-10) likely could have virtually any fight he wants in two weight classes, perhaps including a title shot at either lightweight or welterweight. He isn't picking an opponent yet, but he wants a big cheque.

"I've been in this a long

time," Diaz said. "It'll be nine years. This is my 25th fight here in the UFC, and I've been, in the last few years, curious when this is going to pay off. And I think it's time now."

For Tate (18-5), her first bantamweight title defence is

likely to be a third bout this fall with Ronda Rousey, according to UFC president Dana White. That discounts the possibility of an immediate rematch with Holly Holm, who got choked out with 90 seconds left in their thriller.

Although a third dance with Rousey could be among the most lucrative fights in UFC history, Tate appeared to be the person least interested in choosing her next move.

"The right move feels like drinking a Budweiser and eating cupcakes," Tate said.

As for Holm and McGregor, they'll have the chance to regain their lustre later this year.

Holm said she would love to fight again next week. McGregor expects to drop back down 25 pounds to featherweight, where he is still the champion.

Diaz's next fight could be the title shot he has long sought — and seemed unlikely to get, given his 5-5 record in his previous 10 bouts dating to 2010.

White suggested he could match Diaz against welterweight champion Robbie Lawler in a certain brawl between two sluggers, while McGregor thinks Diaz will get the next shot at Rafael Dos Anjos, the lightweight champion who dropped out of his bout with McGregor two weeks ago because of a foot injury.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ WOMEN'S DRAW

Rousey's film schedule complicates matters

Ronda Rousey isn't expected to be ready to fight before October at the earliest due to movie filming, but Dana White's intention to book Miesha Tate-Rousey 3 seems to rule out the possibility of a Tate-Holly Holm rematch at UFC 200. That means Holm likely will be forced to fight another contender this summer.

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PHOTO: MAYA VISNVEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

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Ready in
Prep time: 5 minutes
Total time: 70 minutes
Serves 6

- Ingredients**
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
 - 4 cloves garlic, minced
 - 1 medium yellow onion, chopped
 - 1 large carrot, chopped
 - 1 stalk celery, chopped
 - 1 medium green bell pepper, cored, seeded and chopped
 - 1 tsp dried oregano
 - 2 tsp ground cumin
 - 2 Tbsp chili powder
 - 1/4 tsp cinnamon
 - 1 1/2 tsp salt
 - 1 28-oz can diced tomatoes
 - 4 cups water

- 1 cup pearl barley
 - 1 can chickpeas, drained and rinsed (16 oz)
 - 1 can black beans, drained and rinsed (16 oz)
- Garnish:** Grated cheddar, sour cream, chopped cilantro

- Directions**
1. Heat oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add garlic, onion, carrot, celery and pepper and cook for 10 minutes, or until vegetables are softened, not browned.
 2. Add oregano, cumin, chili powder, cinnamon and salt and stir to blend.
 3. Add tomatoes and 4 cups of water. Stir in barley. Gently simmer over low heat, uncovered, for 45 minutes.
 4. Add chickpeas and black beans. Allow to simmer for another 10 minutes.
 5. Serve with grated cheddar, sour cream and fresh, chopped cilantro.

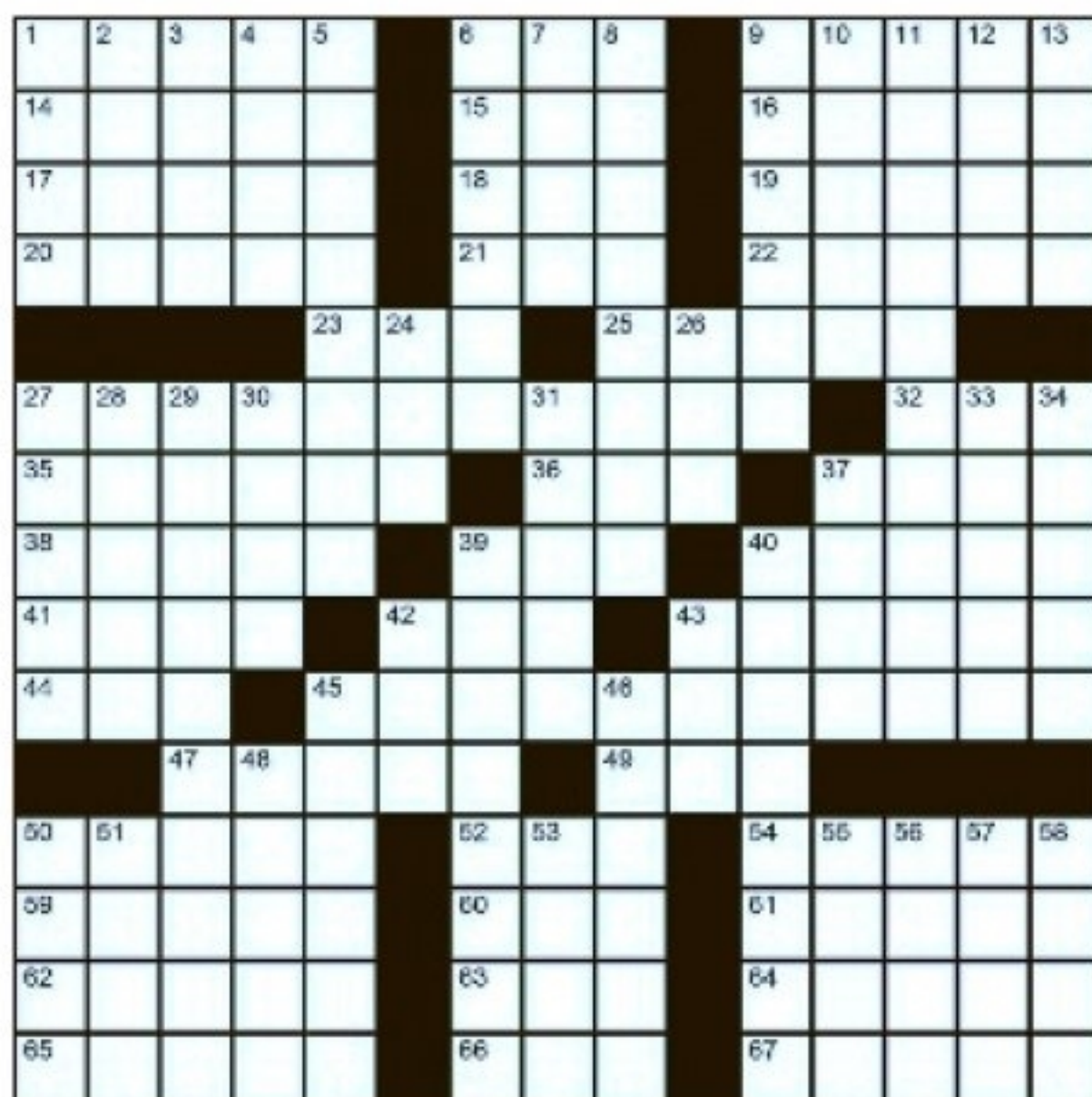
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BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Some bananas
6. Friend
9. Prepare, with a skillet: 2 wds.
14. It could be stuffed
15. __ roll
16. Christopher of "Somewhere in Time" (1980)
17. Armada
18. AC/DC song
19. Scarlett O'Hara's mother
20. Flora and __
21. Luau dish
22. Paul Bettany's role in "The Da Vinci Code" (2006)
23. Pressure meas.
25. So much, in music
27. Canadian Army's polar bear mascot who lives at the Toronto Zoo: 2 wds.
32. Post-WWII female mil. aviators group
35. Restaurant
36. Insert
37. __ do (This will suffice)
38. Shows show-er: 2 wds.
39. Grand-__ Nova Scotia
40. La __ (Milan opera house)
41. Back
42. Billy __ Williams
43. Highest points
44. Chicago's state [abbr.]
45. Place to play hockey on a winter's day: 2 wds.



47. Leader
49. Cheese from Quebec
50. River of Paris
52. Stealth bird
54. Icky-sound-ing plant
59. Molten rock
60. Corpor-

- ate exec.
61. Sing like Michael Buble
62. Movie theatre attendant
63. Canadian hockey legend Mr. Dryden
64. Shoe lace tip
65. Estelle of "The

- Golden Girls"
66. Film studio, DreamWorks ___
67. Wants

- DOWN**
1. Politely tip one's hat
 2. Earthen stew-

- ing pot
3. Stead
4. Level
5. Select/single out: 2 wds.
6. Deep-dish meal
7. __ Domini
8. Freedom from constraint

9. San Joaquin Valley city in California
10. Illuminated the candle again
11. 'Big' transport in a Joni Mitchell hit: 2 wds.
12. Eye part
13. Writes
24. Swine dwelling
26. Furthermore...
27. Agar-hold-ing dish
28. Disentangle
29. "Nighttime/Anytime (___)" by Canadian band Constantines
30. Sharply turn
31. Canadian actor Mr. Keeso
33. Tim of "Home Improvement"
34. Prohibition Era bottle
37. Froster
39. 1970s fads: 2 wds.
40. Graffiti artist's tool: 2 wds.
42. Scheduled
43. Perfect
45. Headline-making Mrs. in 1871 Chicago history
46. Tea type
48. Not fulfilled, as expectations
50. Conceited
51. Slacken
53. Month segment
55. Advocate
56. Mr. Porter
57. Type of student
58. Sidewalk 'hill' creators

* IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Keep your eyes peeled and you'll spot an opportunity to make a name for yourself. Don't worry if you look pushy, worry only that you might miss your shot if you hesitate.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Be precise in what you are trying to say. If you are vague with your words no one will know what it is you are trying to communicate and nothing will get done. Be blunt.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Something will get under your skin today. It may be something interesting, it may even be something important, but don't shout and scream about it. This is something for you alone to investigate and make use of.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You're in an adventurous mood and will want to explore further afield than usual. Just be careful you don't stray into areas where you do not know your way around. And always be aware of the quickest route out!

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You may be your usual energetic self but don't expect others to be as motivated as you. Not everyone shares your passion and this could be one of those days when it is better to do things yourself.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Whatever you turn your hand to today it will work out better than you expected, even if it is the kind of thing you have never done before.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
There is a danger today that you will try to prove yourself by doing too much. Libra is a cardinal sign, which means you like to take the lead, but make sure you know where you are going before you set out.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You can be too hard on yourself, especially when you fail to live up to the impossibly high standards you try to live by. You must be more forgiving today. You're only human.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Someone will get a tongue-lashing today, and no doubt they deserve it, but later you may wish you had not been quite so scathing. Let them know you don't hold a grudge.

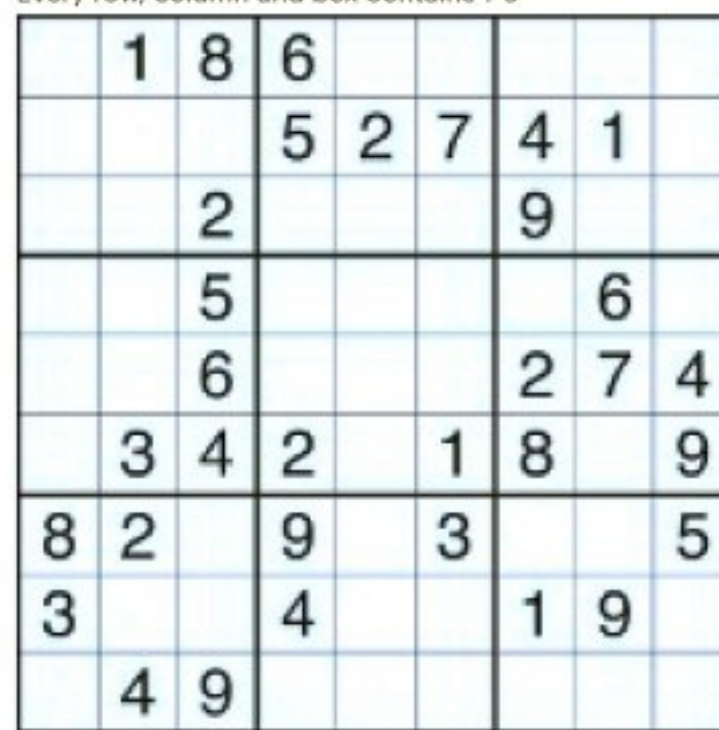
Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
For quite some time now someone has been trying to let you know that they see you as more than just a friend or colleague. But do you feel the same way about them? You will have to decide and let them know.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
The best, and maybe only, way to get results is to transform your current situation. Drastic changes will be made but, having made them, your life will be better — not the same.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Nothing is impossible for you now. You can move mountains if you so choose. A more productive aim might be to bring together people in pursuit of a common aim.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

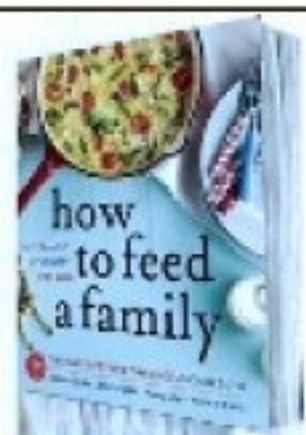
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FRIDAY'S ANSWERS

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4	6	1	3	8	5	9	2	7
9	3	5	6	7	2	1	4	8
8	2	7	9	4	1	6	3	5
2	4	8	7	5	6	3	1	9
1	7	6	8	9	3	4	5	2
3	5	9	2	1	4	8	7	6
6	8	4	5	3	7	2	9	1
7	9	3	1	2	8	5	6	4
5	1	2	4	6	9	7	8	3



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MTI helped me to grow as an individual. They boosted my self-esteem and helped me realize that I could strive for more. Through this college I met new people who became so close to my heart. Also, I met a passionate and wonderful instructor inside and out.

- Arielle R.

I decided to go to MTI Community College right after high school. I chose the Special Education Teacher Assistant program due to the specialization of the program and because I was impressed by the instructor.

- David M.

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